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REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection – Dutta, Schneider and Betros

The Examiner has formerly rejected claims 42-45, 48-50, 52-56, 60-61, 63, 65-70, 75-76 and 78-79 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0073204 issued to Dutta (hereinafter "Dutta") and U.S. Patent No. 6,687,753 issued to Schneider (hereinafter "Schneider") in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0273455 issued to Betros (hereinafter "Betros").

This rejection is believed to be moot in view of the amendments above. In particular, claim 80 has been amended to recite in part "*generating a cost value based in part on conversion of the data to the specified format*". Independent claims 92 and 101 have been amended similarly. Accordingly, independent claims 80, 92, and 101, and their respective dependent claims, are believed to be allowable.

Atty Docket No. 42P11076
Application No. 09/877,687

7

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 8/8/06

Brent E. Vecchia

Brent E. Vecchia
Reg. No. 48,011

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030

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8